

08-21-2022, COTR Texarkana

Title: Mentor Me, David, pt.2

Purpose: Provoke people to embrace God's use of opposition and adversity to promote us and fulfill His purpose in our life.

Truth for Today: God can use opposition and adversity to promote us and fulfill His purpose in our life.

Text: 1 Samuel 17:1-11

Topic: Success, David, Promotion, Adversity, Opposition, Goliath

Series Title: Mentor Me

Series Purpose: Provoke people to learn and apply life lessons, good and bad, from Biblical characters.

Mentor Me, David, pt.2

I. Introduction

A. Pic 1, Context: 1 Sam. 17:1–11 (NLT) The Philistines now mustered their army for battle ...2 Saul countered by gathering his Israelite troops...3 So the Philistines and Israelites faced each other on opposite hills, with the valley between them. 4 Then Goliath...came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of Israel. **He was over nine feet tall!**...Pic 2 8

Goliath...shouted a taunt ...“I am the Philistine champion...Choose one man to come down here and fight me! 9 If he kills me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, you will be our slaves!...11 When Saul and the Israelites heard this, they were **terrified and deeply shaken**.

1. Tallest NBA player, Gheorghe Muresan, Romania, 7'7" Bullets Nets in the 90's
2. Goliath is a picture of adversity and opposition and can be handled several ways: (1) It can paralyze us. (2) If it seems to be demonic, we resist and fight back, Eph. 6, (3) We can see it as an opportunity God will use to promote us. King Saul and the nation of Israel were paralyzed by Goliath but for a young man named David, Goliath became a launching pad for God to promote him.
3. Joke Henry, 4. Reading David and Goliath (**cut-off-his-head**)

B. Review series: Mentor Me. It's about learning life lessons from Biblical mentors. Last week David showed us how to fulfill the Great Commandment and love God with all our heart. Context: Paul at Antioch, [Acts 13:22 (NLT) But God removed (*king*) Saul and replaced him with David, a man about whom **God said, 'I have found David...a man after my own heart. He will do everything I want him to do.'**]

C. Today, David will show us our Truth for Today: God can use opposition and adversity to promote us and fulfill His purpose in our life.

D. Title: Mentor Me, David, pt.2

II. Mentoring lesson #1: Promotion comes in God's timing.

A. 1 Samuel 17:14–58 (NLT) 14...David's three oldest brothers stayed with Saul's army, 15 but David went back and forth so he could help his father with the **sheep**...

1. David was called and anointed to be Israel's next king, but it wasn't God's timing. Many of us feel a call/ tug on our heart to do something significant for God but it's not time, because we're not ready. Illus. My son-in-law is in Med school/ scalpel on cadavers, but I wouldn't let him do surgery on me. He's not ready. In our desire to answer God's call we must wait on God's timing, work on character development, pass spiritual tests, and get in position. One day God's promotion will happen. God is about to use Goliath as a spiritual test to promote David.

III. Mentoring lesson #2: Our God is bigger than our Goliath.

A. [Vs. 20 So David... arrived at the camp just as the Israelite army was leaving for the battlefield...23... Goliath...came out from the Philistine ranks. Then David heard him shout his usual taunt to the army of Israel....26...**Who is this pagan Philistine anyway, that he is allowed to defy the armies of the living God?**"]

1. God is called a **living God** in contrast to the lifeless idols of other nations, and who were even described in their own Canaanite myths as gods who would die. Tran. "This pagan Philistine is nothing before God. He has no right to make fun of the army of the Living God."¹ David believed God was bigger than Goliath.
2. How big is your God? Is He bigger than cancer? Can He heal the sick? Can He take care of you in a recession or in old age? Can He rise from the dead on Easter Sunday and give us hope we can live after we die?

IV. Mentor lesson #3: People will try to stop us from walking in God's plan; don't let them!

A. [Vs. 28...David's oldest brother, Eliab...was angry. "What are you doing around here anyway?"... "What about those **few sheep** you're supposed to be taking care of? I know about your **pride and deceit**. You just want to see the battle!"...32 "Don't worry about this Philistine," David told Saul. "I'll go fight him!" 33 "**Don't be ridiculous!**" Saul replied. "There's **no**

way you can fight this Philistine and possibly win! **You're only** a boy, and he's been a man of war since his youth.”]

1. Since David was looking after sheep, he was probably at least in his teenage years. The point is, however, that he was not accepted as an adult capable of fighting in the army.¹ Logic, reason and experience said he couldn't do it.
2. David was partially motivated by the King's promise to marry his daughter and his family wouldn't have to pay taxes, but he had a childlike purity in his faith. He believed God would help him do the impossible. God was actually a spiritual test that, if he passed it, God would promote him. (God tested Abe, J tested disciples)
3. For us, people will discourage us from doing God's will/ going through our door of opportunity. Don't let them. [Phil. 4:13 (NCV) **I can do all things through Christ, because he gives me strength.**] Illus. Missionary family from COTR called to Asia. No visa's, no car, not enough money but they pressed on.

V. Mentoring lesson #4: Remembering what God did yesterday builds my faith for today.

A. [Vs. 37 **The LORD who rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear will rescue me from this Philistine!**” ...]

1. How could he be so confident God would help him defeat the giant? He remembered what God had done before. David when facing enemies, [Ps. 143:5 (NLT) **I remember** the days of old. I ponder all your great works and **think** about what you have done.] Illus. when I face sickness, I remember LaNell's cancer.

B. Mentoring lesson #5: We can run away from adversity or face it with faith in God.

1. Video Wizard of Oz, Lions and tigers and bears. Most people run from adversity; Nobody was forcing David to fight Goliath. His counselors told him not to but David ran to Goliath. Most people run out of a burning building; a fireman runs inside. Most people who God wants to promote mustn't run but face their Goliath.

VI. Mentoring lesson #6: Be yourself; don't try to be someone else.

A. [Vs. 38 Then Saul gave David his own armor...39 David put it on...“**I can't go in these,**” he protested to Saul. “I'm not used to them.” So David took them off again.]

B. For David, wearing Saul's armor was like trying to walk in another man's anointing/ gifting. Illus. My predecessors, charismatic guys on TV with a big-city image and I'm a country boy who's a decent Bible teacher, prophesy's a little and am pretty good with numbers. It took me 10 years to realize God doesn't want us to be someone we're not. Be who God created you to be; don't compare yourself to others. God didn't make a mistake when He made/ gifted you.

VII. Mentoring lesson #7: Faith is released by speaking what we believe.

A. [Vs. 41 Goliath walked out toward David...42 sneering in contempt at this...boy. 43 "Am I a dog," he roared at David, "that you come at me with a stick?" ...45 David replied to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but **I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven's Armies...** whom you have defied. 46 **Today the LORD will conquer you...** 47 And everyone assembled here will know that **the LORD rescues his people**, but not with sword and spear. **This is the LORD's battle, and he will give you to us!**"]

1. How could David say this against such overwhelming odds? Simple, he saw God as His source. [Psalm 18:1–2 (NCV) **You are my strength. 2 The LORD is my rock, my protection, my Savior...He is my shield and my saving strength, my defender.**] We can face adversity the same way. [Philippians 4:13 (NLT) **For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.**] Faith sees beyond the facts and sees God. 1st we believe in God is saying and then we speak it. Our faith-filled words affect us and the spiritual atmosphere around us.

VIII. Conclusion

A. **Pic 3,4** [Vs. 48 As Goliath moved closer to attack, David quickly ran out to meet him. 49 Reaching into his shepherd's bag and taking out a stone, he hurled it with his sling and hit the Philistine in the forehead...**Goliath stumbled and fell face down on the ground...**51 Then David ran over and pulled Goliath's sword from its sheath. David used it to kill him and *cut off his head*. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they turned and ran.]

B. Facing the giant was a big step for David. He could have backed down, but he didn't. He faced adversity with faith in God and God made the impossible possible. God, then, promoted him because he was willing to face his Goliath and not run away.

C. Our mentor, David taught us our Truth for Today: God can use opposition and adversity to promote us and fulfill His purpose in our life.

IX. Response

A. Prayer: You're facing a Goliath and you need wisdom to know what to do and courage to do it.

B. Souls

X. Bibliography/ Resources: Logos Bible Software and Library, Platinum Edition, was used to prepare this message.

1. Omanson, R. L., & Ellington, J. (2001). [*A handbook on the first book of Samuel*](#) (p. 352-378). New York: United Bible Societies.